

Our Work Sites:

Bear Run Nature Reserve:

Since 1963 this 5,000-acre natural area has been owned and protected by Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. It lies along the west slope of Laurel Ridge, facing the spectacular Youghiogheny River gorge. More than 20 miles of marked trails traverse this fabulous area which is adjacent to the world-famous Frank Lloyd Wright Structure-Fallingwater.

Fort Necessity National Battlefield:

This unit of the National Park Service was the stage for the opening events of the French and Indian War. The park was established in 1931 to commemorate the battle, as well as the events that influenced Washington's development as a military officer.

Forbes State Forest: Pennsylvania has over 2 million acres of forestland found in State Forests, which is publicly owned and managed by DCNR's Bureau of Forestry. Forbes State Forest comprises over 60,000 acres in Fayette, Westmoreland and Somerset counties.

Ohiopyle State Park:

This park encompasses roughly 20,549 acres of rugged natural beauty and serves as the gateway to the Laurel Highlands. The focal point of the area is the more than 14 miles of the Youghiogheny River Gorge that passes through the heart of the park providing spectacular scenery, recreational opportunities and fantastic biological diversity.

I'm interested in helping. How do I get involved?

Please contact the host site to let them know you are coming and for details about work days. Overnight accommodations are often available if you call in advance.

Contacts at each site:

Bear Run: Sarah Pears
724-329-1441 ex.1016 email Spears@paconserve.org

Ft. Necessity: Connie Ranson
724-329-5818 or email connie_ranson@nps.gov

Forbes State Forest: Ralph Campbell
724-425-3004

Ohiopyle State Park: Stacie Faust or Barbara Wallace
724-329-8598 or 724-329-0986
email stfaust@state.pa.us or eeohiopyle@qcol.net

Southern Laurel Highlands Plant Management Partners:

Fayette County Conservation District
Friends of Ohiopyle State Park(FOO)
Great Meadows Garden Club
Kentuck Knob
National Park Service
New Meadow Run Community
Penn's Corner Conservancy
PA DCNR- Ohiopyle State Park
PA DCNR- Bureau of Forestry
PA Game Commission
US Forest Service
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

*Southern Laurel Highlands
Plant Management Partners:*

PROJECT WEEDWACK 2009



A successful day pulling garlic mustard in 2008

**Join the SLHPMP to help
eliminate pressure on our
native species.**

*Who are we
And What is Project Weedwack?*

The Southern Laurel Highlands Plant Management Partnership is a group of agencies and individuals working together to help protect Pennsylvania's native plant and animal species. This group encompasses many large land holders in Fayette county Pennsylvania including Bear Run Nature Preserve, Fort Necessity National Battlefield, Forbes State Forest and Ohiopyle State Park. One of our main focuses is to identify and eradicate invasive species that are impacting our native species.

One way to reach this goal is to educate our volunteers, and the general public in the identification and proper eradication of invasive species. Our hope is to provide hands on, in the field identification and eradication practice through a series of work days. Many of the workdays will be coupled with fun activities as a way to make the work seem a bit less painful!

The following is a list of dates, places and plants that are being targeted for attack... or should we say wack? Please join us for one or all of these dates. We appreciate any help so even if you can only make it for half a day please join us. Overnight accommodations are often available-please contact host site for more information.

Project Whack Attack Dates:



Tartarian Honeysuckle/ Woodcock Watch:

When: March 14 2:00pm-5:00pm

Where: Ft Necessity, Visitor's Center

What: Introduction program, work on honeysuckle removal & picnic. Followed by nighttime viewing of the woodcock's courtship display

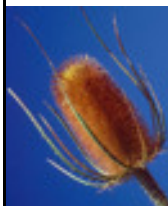


All out Ferncliff Offensive

When: April 18; 9:00am

Where: Ohiopyle State Park, Ferncliff Peninsula -Meet at Park Office

What: Attack, pull, cut beat on and abuse all invasive species found on the Ferncliff Peninsula National Natural Landmark



Common Teasel (*Dispacus fallonum*)

When: May 9 9:00am

Where: Fort Necessity; Visitor's center

What: Teasel eradication



Japanese Knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*)

When: June 27; 9:00am

Where: Ohiopyle State Park-Park Office

What: Knotweed eradication on Middle Youghiogheny. We will float down the middle in boats and stop to do some knotweed abuse along the way.



Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*)

When: July 25, 9:00am

Where: Bear Run Nature Preserve Barn at Fallingwater

What: Stiltgrass eradication

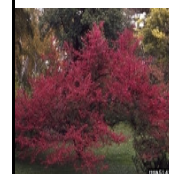


Quebec Run Attack

When: August 15 9:00am

Where: Quebec Run- Forbes State Forest

What: Anything we don't like



Forbes Attack

When: September 19, 9:00am

Where: Forbes State Forest, Pond field office

What: Plants that just don't get along well with others.

What should I bring?

Please bring a lunch, drink, appropriate work attire and gloves. We will supply tools.